5.00 P.M.

Therefore, I would like to tell you, Sir, that it is high time that we give the people the promise that the Prime Minister made that there will be no human rights violation. He said that there would be zero tolerance. Where is that human rights violation not being done? Even today we have that dreaded law, the Special Powers Act, under which any soldier can go and arrest anybody, can go to anybody's home, even my home, beat the hell out of me and you cannot take him to the court as was proved recently. When the courts asked for the officers to be brought to the courts, they said, we do not come under your purview. It was only at the highest level in Delhi that they were told that they had to go. Otherwise, that law is the one that is creating tragedies for us. I think it is high time you looked at it. I am glad that the Foreign Minister of India today who was the Defence Minister of India, I would like to tell him from this very seat that one of the miseries that we face is that when an army convoy moves, I wish you could see it, there is a man with a whistle in his mouth and a stick in his hand, and if you do not give him the way or you want to cross him, he will hit you there and then, and he will stop and he will take you out of the vehicle and beat the hell out of you. So, are we creating confidence by this? Are we building national security by this? Are we winning the hearts of the people that we have to win? If we do not win the hearts of the people, Sir, we will never be able to get rid of the terrorism that is going to be there for many years to come, and maybe, we will never see the end of it. If we want to win the hearts of the people, Sir, let us get on with the job that we have said we will do and stop these human right violations that take place. I do not forgive the terrorists. They are as much involved in the human rights violations. They throw a bomb. It does not kill a policeman, it does not kill a serviceman; it kills an innocent person on the road, an innocent woman or an innocent man or an innocent boy who is the bread earner of the State. There are instances, which must be looked into. I went to a place near Pakharpura where an 18 years old boy...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Doctor Sahib, the Foreign Minister has to make a statement. Later on you can continue. It was decided that he will make his statement at five o' clock.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Visit of Chinese President Hu Jintao to India

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB

MUKHERJEE): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to make this Statement.

President Hu Jintao of China paid a State visit to India from November 20-23, 2006. Both Governments attached great importance to this visit and made careful preparations. This was the first visit by a Chinese President to India since President Jiang Zemin visit in November-December 1996. The visit was seen as imparting even greater dynamism to the ongoing high-level exchanges between the two countries.

President Hu had a productive and comprehensive exchange of views with our leaders on bilateral relations and regional and international issues of common interest. The visit highlighted the resolve of both countries to work towards the further consolidation and diversification of India-China relations. Hon. Members would recall that during the visit of the Chinese Premier to India last year, we had decided to establish a strategic and cooperative partnership. President Hu's visit offered us the opportunity to add greater content and meaning to this partnership. This was reflected in the "ten-pronged strategy" embodied in the Joint Declaration that was issued on behalf of Prime Minister and the Chinese President during the visit. A copy of the Joint Declaration is placed on the Table of the House. A synopsis of thirteen agreements signed during the visit is also being placed on the Table of the House. The range of these agreements reflects the evolving multi-dimensional nature of our relationship with China.

During the interactions, leadership on both sides reviewed recent development in bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction over the sustained positive momentum in the relationship. Both Prime Minister and President Hu noted that India-China relations had transcended their bilateral dimension and acquired a global and strategic significance. President Hu characterised the present phase in the relationship as marking a "new historic beginning" and conveyed that his visit would send out a strong signal to the international community that India and China were willing to work hand in hand for long-term friendship and common development. He stressed that China had taken a "long-term and strategic view" of the relationship with India, desiring to build a strong and cooperative relationship based on shared and common interests. Prime Minister also highlighted that he would like India and China to work together as good neighbours and partners and to develop together in a mutually supportive manner while remaining sensitive to each other's concerns and aspirations. Both leaders agreed on the need for sustained efforts to exploit the

full potential of strategic partnership and to resolve outstanding issues in a focussed, sincere and problem-solving manner.

A number of initiatives were announced during the visit to consolidate institutional linkages between the two Governments, encourage comprehensive economic engagement, promote trans-border connectivity and cooperation, and enhance science and technology, cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Both sides agreed to hold regular summit-level meetings and decided to open new Consulates in Kolkata and Guangzhou. The two sides also decided to set up an expert-level mechanism to discuss interaction and cooperation on the provision of flood-season hydro-logical data, emergency management and other issues regarding trans-border rivers. Economic cooperation emerged as a major thrust area of the visit, with both sides keen to send out a clear message in this regard, reflected in the signing of Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement, fixing of trade target of US $ 40 billion by 2010 and mandating the Joint Task Force already established by the two countries to complete its study on the feasibility and benefits of India-China Regional Trading Arrangement by October, 2007. Important understandings were reached for continued expansion of border trade and greater facilitation of Kailash-Mansarovar Yatra. Both sides underlined the need to broad-base the relationship through enhanced people-to-people contacts and cultural ties, taking initiatives such as launching of an "India-China Year of Friendship through Tourism" in 2007 and a five-year programme for exchange of youth delegations.

The hon. Prime Minister and the Chinese President exchanged views on the boundary question and expressed satisfaction at the progress made by the Special Representatives. Both leaders agreed that an early resolution of the boundary question would not only advance the basic interests of the two countries, but also invest our strategic partnership with further strength and dynamism, and should therefore be pursued as a strategic objective. They directed the Special Representatives to intensify their work to expeditiously explore the framework of a boundary settlement on the basis of the Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles signed in April last year. Both sides also expressed the commitment that, pending the final settlement of the boundary question, they would maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas and expedite the work of clarification and confirmation of the line of actual control.

I am aware of the concerns expressed by hon. Members about remarks made by the Chinese envoy on the eve of the visit about the status of Arunachal Pradesh. As you are also aware, I unambiguously rejected the Chinese contention, stating that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of India. Let me also state that the matter was taken up immediately with the Chinese Government through our Ambassador in Beijing and our dis-appointment and concern over the Chinese statement clearly conveyed. Prime Minister also had a useful exchange of views with President Hu on regional and multilateral issues. It was noted that as two most populous countries with rapidly developing economies, the development of India and China were important factors in the shaping of future global architecture. The two leaders noted that together India and China could make effective contributions in dealing with global issues of sustainable and equitable development, energy security, peace and prosperity in Asia and in the world, environment protection and fight against terrorism and cross-border crimes. On the issue of the reform of the United Nationals Security Council, President Hu Jintao reiterated the assurance given by the Chinese Premier to Prime Minister in April last year that China understands and supports India's aspirations to play a bigger role in the United Nations, including in the Security Council, and that China would be happy to see India succeed in its endeavour to become a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council.

The importance of high-level exchanges and personal involvement of leaders in the development of India-China relations was clearly acknowledged during the visit. President Hu Jintao mentioned that this was his fifth meeting with the Prime Minister in the last eighteen months. President Hu invited Prime Minister to visit China next year. Prime Minister has accepted the invitation. The exact timing of the visit will be decided through diplomatic channels.

On the whole, both sides are satisfied with the outcome of the Chinese President's visit to India, which is expected to give a significant boost to our joint efforts to seek an all round development of India-China relations while addressing the outstanding issues in a frank, purposive and proactive manner. The visit represented an important step forward in the process of developing a cooperative framework of engagement with China, notwithstanding outstanding issues. It highlighted the commitment of the two sides to add greater content to their strategic partnership and to develop an action-oriented template for the future development and diversification of India-China relations. It also offered an opportunity to send out a strong signal to the international community that as good neighbours and

strong signal to the international community that as good neighbours and partners, there was enough space for India and China to develop together in a mutually supportive manner, while remaining sensitive to each other's concerns and aspirations.

Let me conclude by saying that our policy towards China, which is an important component of our foreign policy, has been characterised by continuity and consensus. We are encouraged by the positive trends in India-China relations and remain hopeful that our continued engagement with China at the highest level will give further impetus to our bilateral relations and speed up the process of resolution of our outstanding differences. In this endeavour, we seek the full support and endorsement of this Hon. Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Clarifications will be at a later date. Dr. Farooq Abdullah, please continue.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Internal Security Scenario in the Country — *Contd.*

DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am glad that we have had good relations with China. And, I hope, the Foreign Minister on his visit will also see that the route to Mansarovar that we have been demanding for a long time from Ladakh may be agreed upon by them. That will also make the process of development in that far-flung area of my State comfortable.

Sir, I was saying this and I will conclude very quickly. First is, for zero tolerance to come, some of the things are very important. And, I hope, the Home Minister will look into this. One is the Disturbed Area Act, and the other is the Special Powers'Act. These need to be reviewed. It is essential. I think this will bring about a sea change in the thinking of the people. At the same time, Sir, I would like to tell my friends on this side that with Pakistan we have started talks and have achieved good results of friendship. And, >must say that the credit goes to the ex-Prime Minister, Shri Vajpayee, who started the negotiations. And I hope that this side will understand this. I remember him coming to Kashmir, and very near the border was one of my areas which was so near, which was hit by the earthquake. The Prime Minister at that time made a statement. He said, and I quote: "Friends can be changed, but neighbours cannot be changed.